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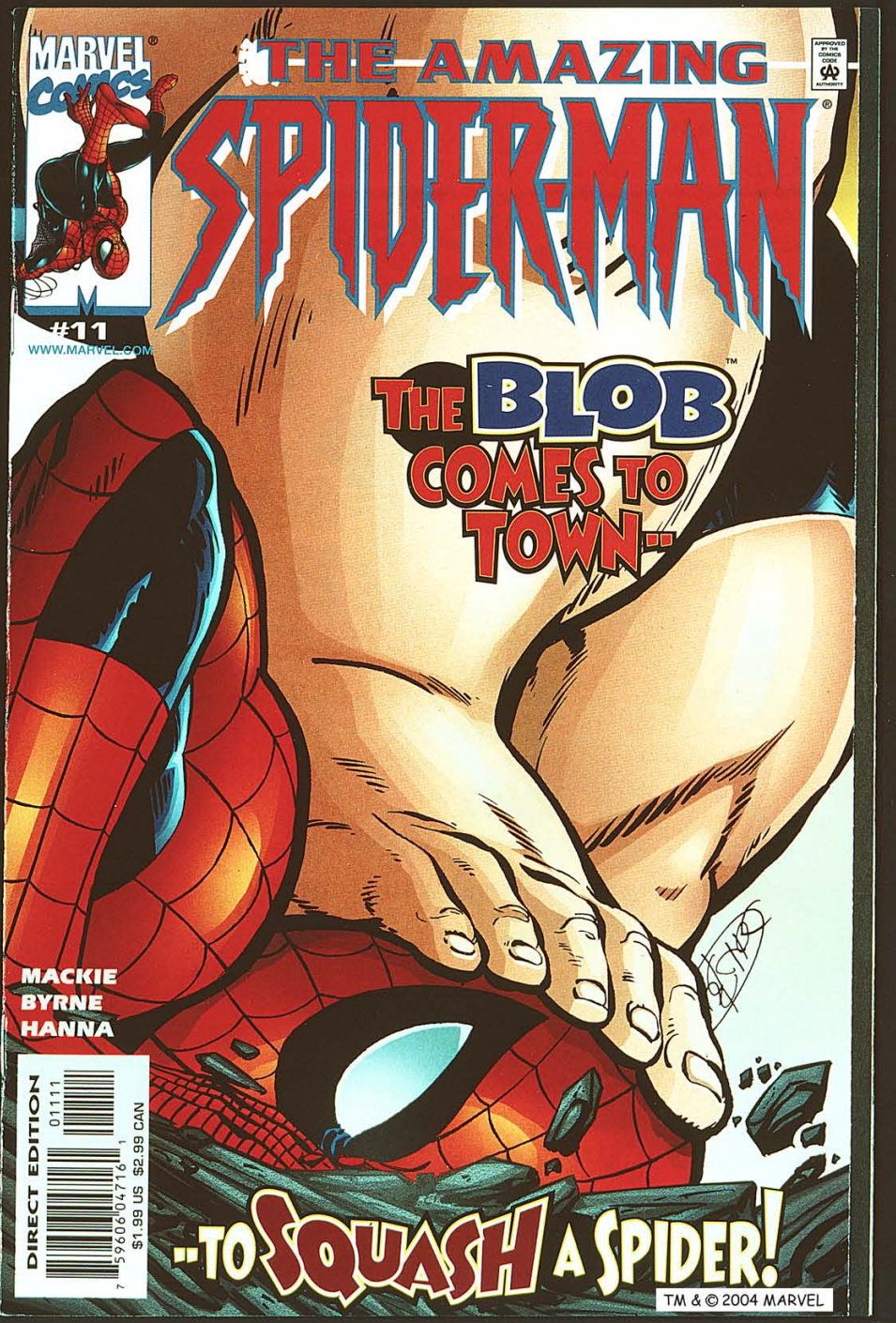

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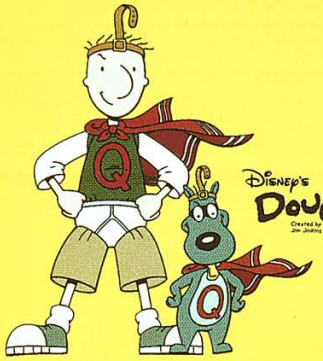

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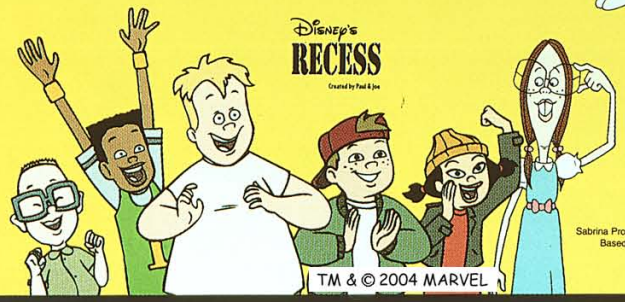

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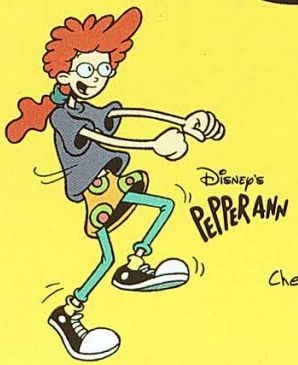

Check local listings for time.

©Disney

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At a demonstration on Radiology, high school student Peter Parker was bitten by an Irradiated Spider from which he gained the Arachnid's Incredible Abilities. When a burglar killed his beloved Uncle Ben, a grief-stricken Peter vowed to use his Great Powers in the service of his fellow man, because he learned an invaluable lesson: With Great Power must also come Great Responsibility. Stan Lee Presents:
THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN!
TM & © 2004 MARVEL
BRIGHT LIGHTS... BIGGER CITY
HOWARD MACKIE & JOHN BYRNE
STORY AND ART
JOE ROSAS
COLORS
RS & COMICRAFT/LA
LETTERS
RALPH MACCHIO
EDITS
BOB HARRAS
CHIEF
...THEY LOVE EACH OTHER DEEPLY!
AND TONIGHT, WHILE LOOKING UP AT THE FULL MOON HANGING OVER THE CITY...
...ALL THEY WANT...
...IS TO BE TOGETHER.
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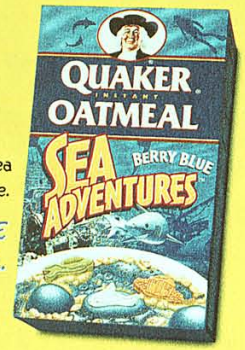

Just add hot water, and create an undersea world of sharks, divers and sunken treasure.

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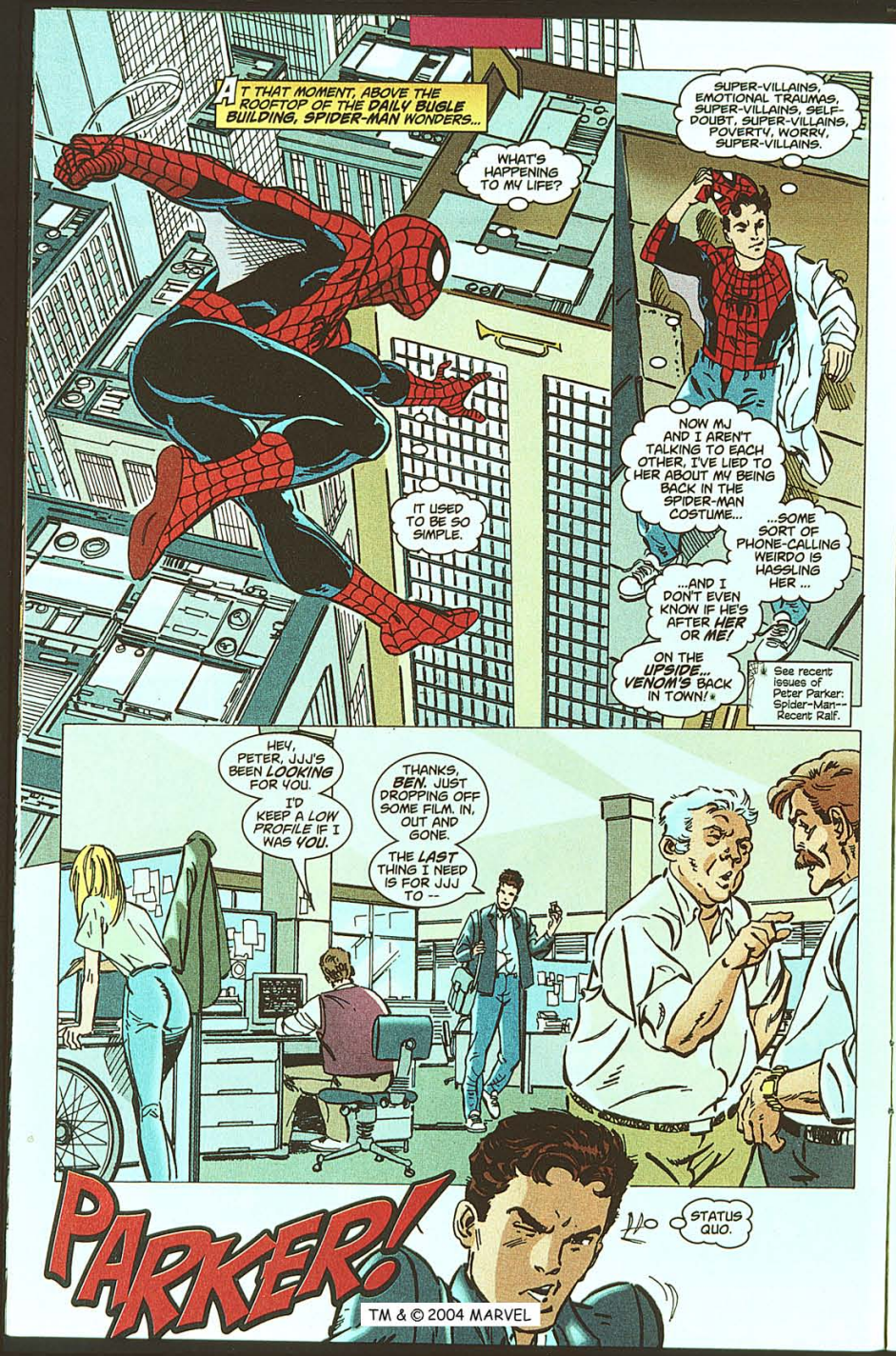
AT THAT MOMENT, ABOVE THE ROOFTOP OF THE DAILY BUGLE BUILDING, SPIDER-MAN WONDERS...
WHAT'S HAPPENING TO MY LIFE?
IT USED TO BE SO SIMPLE.
SUPER-VILLAINS, EMOTIONAL TRAUMAS, SUPER-VILLAINS, SELF-DOUBT, SUPER-VILLAINS, POVERTY, WORRY, SUPER-VILLAINS.
NOW MJ AND I AREN'T TALKING TO EACH OTHER, I'VE LIED TO HER ABOUT MY BEING BACK IN THE SPIDER-MAN COSTUME...
...SOME SORT OF PHONE-CALLING WEIRDO IS HASSLING HER ...
...AND I DON'T EVEN KNOW IF HE'S AFTER HER OR ME!
ON THE UPSIDE... VENOM'S BACK IN TOWN!*
* See recent issues of Peter Parker: Spider-Man--Recent Ralf.
HEY, PETER, JJJ'S BEEN LOOKING FOR YOU.
I'D KEEP A LOW PROFILE IF I WAS YOU.
THANKS, BEN. JUST DROPPING OFF SOME FILM. IN, OUT AND GONE.
THE LAST THING I NEED IS FOR JJJ TO --
STATUS QUO.
PARKER!
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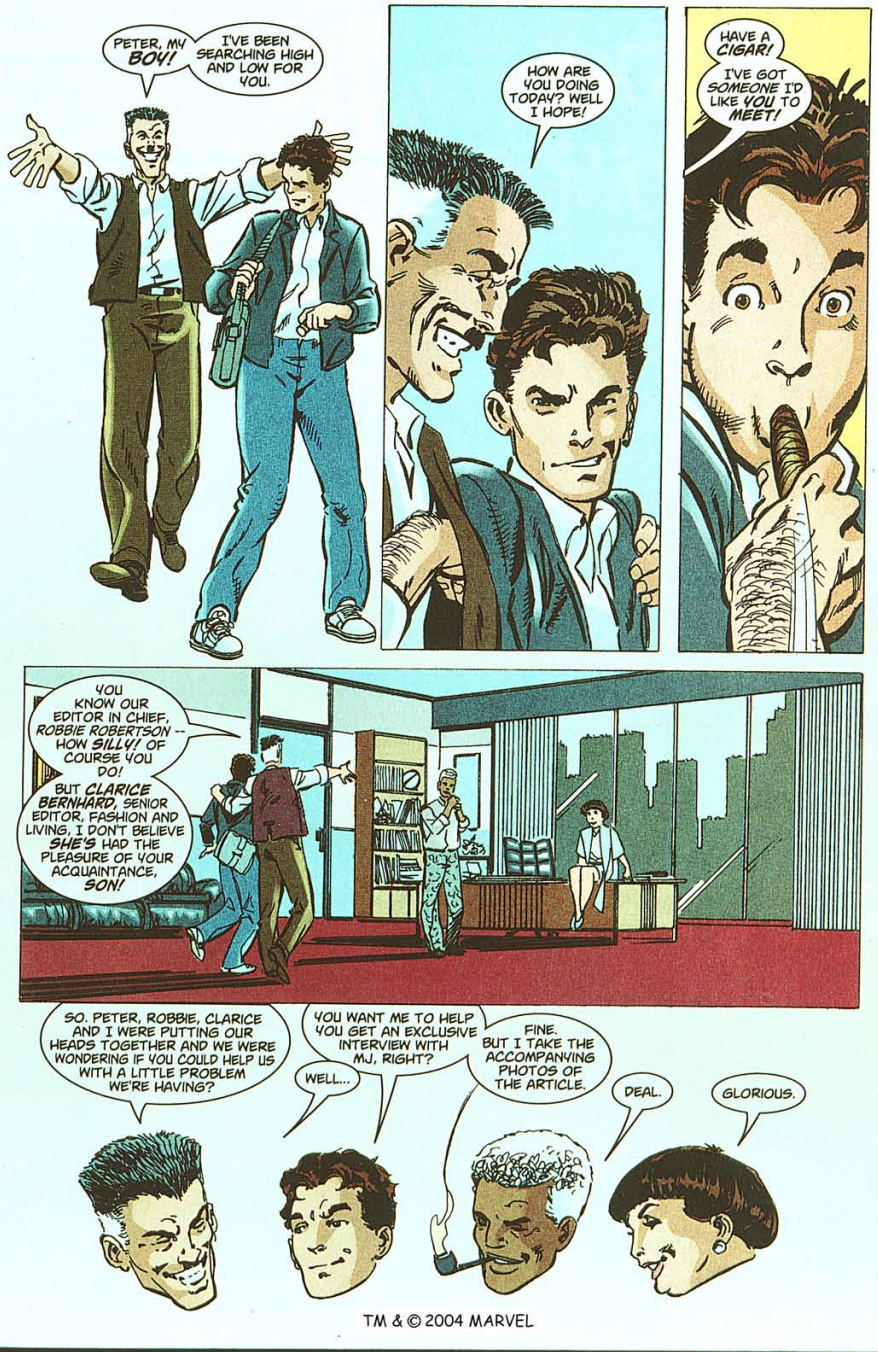
PETER, MY BOY!
I'VE BEEN SEARCHING HIGH AND LOW FOR YOU.
HOW ARE YOU DOING TODAY? WELL I HOPE!
HAVE A CIGAR!
I'VE GOT SOMEONE I'D LIKE YOU TO MEET!
YOU KNOW OUR EDITOR IN CHIEF, ROBBIE ROBERTSON -- HOW SILLY! OF COURSE YOU DO!
BUT CLARICE BERNHARD, SENIOR EDITOR, FASHION AND LIVING, I DON'T BELIEVE SHE'S HAD THE PLEASURE OF YOUR ACQUAINTANCE, SON!
SO. PETER, ROBBIE, CLARICE AND I WERE PUTTING OUR HEADS TOGETHER AND WE WERE WONDERING IF YOU COULD HELP US WITH A LITTLE PROBLEM WE'RE HAVING?
YOU WANT ME TO HELP YOU GET AN EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH MJ, RIGHT?
WELL...
FINE. BUT I TAKE THE ACCOMPANYING PHOTOS OF THE ARTICLE.
DEAL.
GLORIOUS.
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Rock Your Block Halloween Sweepstakes!

Win a party at your house with the "Captain"!

Grand Prize

Rock your Block Halloween Party with the "Captain"

$1000 Savings Bond!

Rock Raiders toy sets and PC CD-ROM

To Enter: Send us your name, address, zip code, date of birth plus daytime and evening telephone numbers. Mail your entry to be received by 10/4/99 to the following address:

LEGO/Marvel Rock Raiders Sweepstakes
P.O. Box 4686
Blair, NE 68009-4686

1st Prizes

100 Winners
A Rock Raiders PC CD-ROM

2nd Prizes

200 Winners
A Rock Raiders key chain

OFFICIAL RULES
NO PURCHASE NECESSARY

1. HERE'S HOW TO ENTER: On a plain piece of 3" x 5" paper, hand print your complete name, address, zip code, date of birth plus (optional) daytime and evening telephone numbers. Mail your entry, in a stamped, hand-addressed business size (#10) envelope, via first class mail, to: LEGO/Marvel Rock Raiders Sweepstakes, P.O. Box 4686, Blair, NE 68009-4686. Entries must be received by 10/4/99. Limit one entry per envelope. No mechanically reproduced entries permitted. Not responsible for lost, late, illegible, mutilated, misdirected entries or entries not received in time for the random drawing. **2.** RANDOM DRAWING: Winners will be selected in a random drawing on or about 10/5/99 from among all eligible entries received by D.L. Blair, an independent judging organization whose decisions are final. All prizes will be awarded and winners notified by mail. Limit one prize per family/household. Odds of winning a prize will depend upon the number of eligible entries received. **3.** PRIZES & APPROXIMATE RETAIL VALUES: (1) Grand Prize - A Halloween party for winner and up to 10 of winner's friends at winner's home, including food, beverages and an appearance by a Rock Raider Captain, plus an assortment of Rock Raiders toys, a Rock Raiders CD-ROM and U.S. $1,000 Savings Bond ($6,300); (100) First Prizes - A Rock Raiders PC CD-ROM ($40.00 each); (200) Second Prizes - A Rock Raiders key chain ($5.00 each). Prizes are limited to those items specifically listed as part of prize. **4.** GENERAL RULES: Open to U.S. residents who, as of 10/4/99, are between the ages of 8 and 12. Employees of LEGO, Marvel Comics, their affiliates, subsidiaries, advertising and promotion agencies and their immediate family members and/or those living in the same household of each are not eligible. Void where prohibited by law. No substitution or transfer of prize permitted. All federal, state and local laws and regulations apply. Parent or legal guardian of potential Grand Prize winner must sign and return an Affidavit of Eligibility/Release of Liability/Prize Acceptance Form within 15 days of attempted notification. Noncompliance within this time period may result in disqualification and an alternate may be selected. Return of any prize/prize notification as undeliverable will result in disqualification and an alternate will be selected. Grand Prize party must take place on date specified by sponsor. Winner's parent or legal guardian must be present throughout party. LEGO reserves the right to substitute prize of equal or greater value. Acceptance of prize constitutes permission to the sponsor and its agencies to use winners' names and/or likenesses for purposes of advertising and trade without further compensation, unless prohibited by law. By accepting prize, winners agree to hold sponsor, their respective directors, officers, employees and assigns, harmless against any and all claims and liability arising out of use of prize. Winners assume all liability for any injury or damage caused, or claimed to be caused, by participation in this promotion or use or redemption of any prize. By participating in this promotion, entrants agree to be bound by the Official Rules and the decisions of the judges. Sponsors not responsible for any typographical or other error in the printing of the offer, administration of the sweepstakes or in the announcement of the prize. **5.** WINNERS LIST: For names of major prize winners, send a separate, stamped, self-addressed (#10) envelope to: LEGO/Marvel Rock Raiders Winners, P.O. Box 4699, Blair, NE 68009-4699, to be received by 11/15/99.

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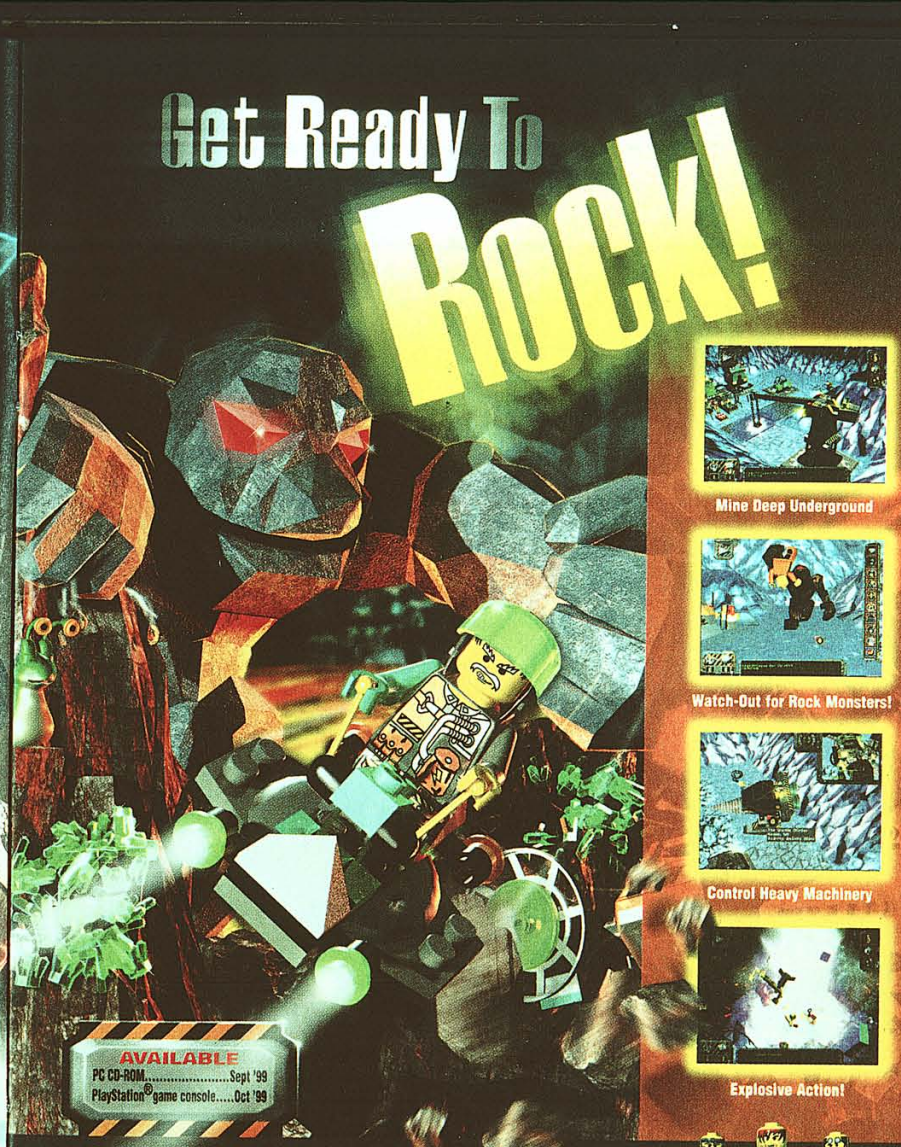
Get Ready To Rock!



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EVERYONE E CONTENT RATED BY ESRB

LEGO ROCK RAIDERS

High Adventure Deep Underground

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A SHORT TIME LATER...
SEE, THAT'S WHAT MY LIFE HAS TURNED INTO.
DID YOU SEE? I COULDN'T EVEN WALK AROUND THE BLOCK FOR SOME FRESH AIR WITHOUT BEING MOBBED.
SOMETIMES, JILL, I DON'T KNOW IF IT'S WORTH IT --/
!
MJ? WHAT'S WRONG? WHAT --?
YOU'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO GET AWAY FROM ME! IF I CAN'T HAVE YOU NOBODY WILL! YOUR HUSBAND IS GOING TO DIE!
OH NO!
HOW COULD..? WE WERE ONLY GONE FOR --?
MJ? WHAT'S GOING ON?
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OUTSIDE...
NO... REALLY... I AM MARY JANE'S HUSBAND!
UH-HUH!
WHAT'S THIS, ED, THE THIRD OR FOURTH HUSBAND TODAY?
I DON'T KNOW, RALPHIE, BUT HE MIGHT WANNA TRY THE SICK BROTHER IN NEED OF A BONE MARROW TRANSPLANT THING.
WE'VE ONLY HAD ONE OF THOSE!
WONDERFUL! THE ONLY REASON I AGREED TO THIS ASSIGNMENT WAS AS A WAY TO GET CLOSE TO MJ AND --
-- WHAT'S THAT? SIRENS?
SOMETHING ISN'T RIGHT. I DON'T NEED MY SPIDER-SENSE TO KNOW THAT --
-- THERE SHE IS! MJ AND JILL SURROUNDED BY GUARDS. I'VE GOT TO GET HER ATTENTION. SHE LOOKS SO SCARED!
WOOOOOOOOO
MJ! MJ! IT'S ME, PETER!
SIRENS ARE GETTING LOUDER... CLOSER!
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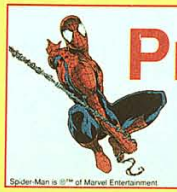

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Captain Woodchuck ©1999 MHC

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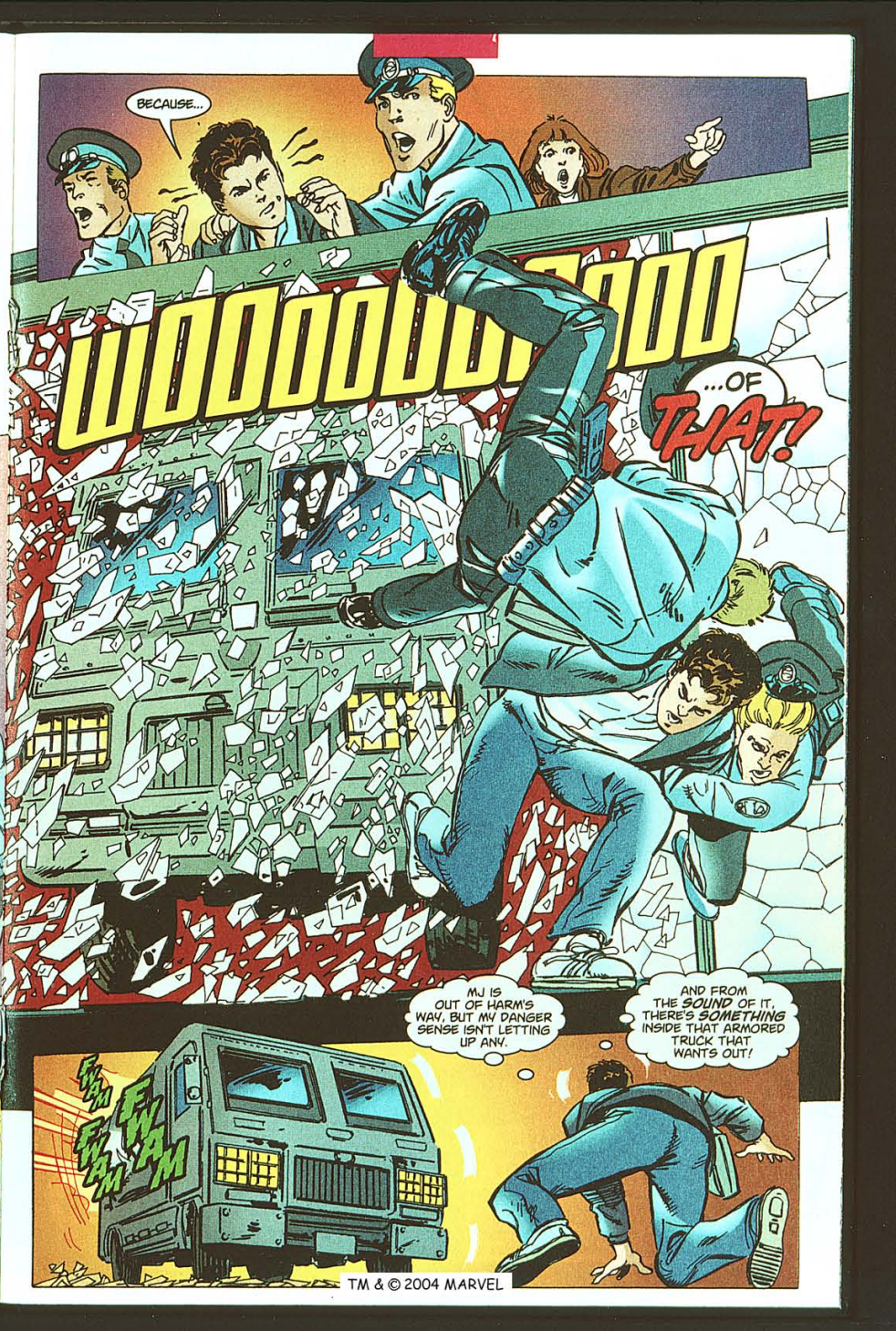

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"MAKE THAT SOMEONE...

FWAK

...THE BLOB!

As stated in just about EVERY law enforcement records department in the country... "The Blob's mutant powers relate to the relative mass, strength, resilience and indestructibility of his obese body. His primary ability is to become virtually IMMOVABLE at will as long as he is in contact with the ground." -- Run-off-at-the-mouth Ralf.

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BULLPEN BULLETINS

AVAILABLE SEPTEMBER 15TH

BISHOP: THE LAST X-MAN #2

BISHOP has found himself in a strange new world — and amongst a group of ragtag bandits who use his imagery in their attacks! To them, he is the Last X-Man, a legendary figure lost to the sands of time. Now, face to face with their idol, this group of mutants find themselves at odds with him. By JOSEPH HARRIS & GEORGES JEATTY!

CAPTAIN AMERICA #23

CAPTAIN AMERICA... convict?! CAP wants to find out first hand if there's something rotten in the U.S.'s own Department of Immigration Services — so he goes undercover as a prison detainee! The trouble is, how do you police a jail when the warden himself is corrupt? By MARK WAID & JAY FAERBER!

DEATHLOK #4

After a harrowing jailbreak, the Circus of Crime's CLOWN sets out to become the most feared hitman in the Marvel Universe—but he'll have to survive a fall into a nest of cyborg mercenaries to do it! By JOE CASEY & ERIC CANETE!

FANTASTIC FIVE #2

Meet TORUS STORM, son of the HUMAN TORCH and MS. FANTASTIC! Sneak a peek into the THING'S secret personal life! See the new version of BIG BRAIN in action! And learn of a mysterious plot to expose what really happened to REED and SUE RICHARDS! By TOM DEFALCO & PAUL RYAN!

FANTASTIC FOUR '99

The FF return to Paris to solve the mystery of the Ruined—only to discover an even greater threat to the HELLFIRE CLUB! Will the FANTASTIC FOUR be forced to help the villains who have bedeviled THE X-MEN at every turn! By CHRIS CLAREMONT & LADRONN!

GALACTUS THE DEVOURER #3 of 6

GALACTUS is prepared to consume the Earth—and even the power of the AVENGERS, the FANTASTIC FOUR and more may not be enough to stop him! You'll never believe the shocking ending—or the new beginning it unleashes! By LOUISE SIMONSON & JOHN BUSCEMA!

HULK #8

25 years ago, both the HULK and Marveldom Assembled first encountered a pint-sized Canadian roughhouser with unbreakable adamantium claws. Now, on the eve of the anniversary of that event, WOLVERINE is back to face the Green Goliath again—in what could be their final confrontation. By JOHN BYRNE & RON GARNEY!

MARVEL MILESTONE: INCREDIBLE HULK #181

Presenting WOLVERINE'S 1st adventure! This collectors' comic reprints INCREDIBLE HULK #181, in which the Canadian agent calling himself "The WOLVERINE" jumped into the middle of the battle between the jade giant and WENDIGO! By LEN WEIN & HERB TRIMPE!

PETER PARKER: SPIDER-MAN #11

Pulled into the blistering battle between the AVENGERS and several godlike beings, the wall-crawler discovers that their maniacal machine is being built beneath the Daily Bugle! Meanwhile, we reveal the secret of the mysterious phone calls that have been haunting MARY JANE! By HOWARD MACKIE & JOHN ROMITA JR.!

THUNDERBOLTS #32

Forced to battle in a high-tech arena to rescue CHARCOAL, the THUNDERBOLTS are also the last line of defense against a deadly threat to the United States! Does this signal the return of the surprise T-BOLTS foe you've been waiting for?! KURT BUSIEK & MARK BAGLEY & SCOTT HANNA!

X-MAN #57

Last issue, MYSTERIO set out to steal NATE's powers to warp reality. Has the sneaky super-villain succeeded? Now NATE must find a way to not only get his abilities back, but also stop a madman who may be the most powerful entity on Earth! By TERRY KAVANAGH & MIKE MILLER!

X-MEN #94

Rogue discovers who's tracking MYSTIQUE and is shocked to find that the hunter is a former X-Man! Meanwhile, SHADOWCAT uncovers the journal of the long-dead DESTINY — and learns of a horrifying vision of the immediate future! By ALAN DAVIS & ALAN DAVIS!

X-MEN: CHILDREN OF THE ATOM #1 of 6

The time is the recent past. The world is just becoming aware of the existence of mutants. Behind the scenes, two men begin a personal conflict that will one day engulf all of their kind. While CHARLES XAVIER begins bringing together his special students, MAGNETO launches his own campaign to win the loyalty of certain emerging mutants. The prize of their rivalry? By JOE CASEY & STEVE RUDE!

STAN'S SOAPBOX

Hi, Heroes!

Knowing how eager you are to learn which lucky individuals are favored with No-Prizes this ish, let's not waste another minute as we joyously race to read comicdom's most eagerly awaited and best loved gaggle of light-hearted letters and awesome answers...

Phillip Berrian of Brooklyn, New York sure thinks big. Want proof? Read on ...

"Did you ever think about having your own TV network where you could show old Marvel cartoons and old TV shows like The Incredible Hulk and Spider-Man? It would be so cool if Marvel could someday have its own network!"

Great idea, Phil. The only problem is, do you know how much our own TV network would cost? But here's a way to do it -- if you, and all the Marvelites throughout the globe, would buy hundreds of copies of every title we publish for the next few years, we just might be able to afford our own network. Sounds easy, right? Izzit a deal?

While Phil contacts Marvelites world-wide, let's meet Jeff Esert of Ontario, Canada...

"Two questions. Has Spider-Man ever lost his superpowers for a period of time? And, has Aunt May ever fallen in love with anyone since Uncle Ben?"

I can't remember Spidey ever losing his powers, Jeff. (Though, if I'm wrong, we'll get a ton of mail about this one!) As for Aunt May, I seem to remember her once having a crush on Doc Ock and, though I wouldn't want this to get around, I also heard that, when we were both a lot younger, she was rumored to have had a thing for me, too!

Ryan Dew of Garrettsville, OH is one guy who seems to know what he wants...

"I'm thinking about becoming a comicbook writer like you when I grow up. Do you have any advice?"

Sure, Ryan. Read, read, read! Write, write, write! Read everything and anything you can get your hands on -- not just comicbooks. And write whenever you get the chance -- write, articles, compositions, essays, stories, anything and everything to give you a facility with words and with putting your thoughts on papers clearly and interestingly.

Once you feel that you can really write, then and only then, concentrate on comics. Study the mags, learn to recognize each writer's individual style, try to figure out what makes some strips better than others and, when you think you're ready, contact the editors at your favorite mags and ask if you can submit samples of your writing. Don't get discouraged if no one seems interested in you at first; remember, there's a lot of competition, but stick to it. All you need is talent and a whole lot of luck!

Wow! I didn't realize I could be so serious for a whole paragraph. I must be slipping! But, to be sure that you don't slip, you'd better commit our address to memory-- *Soapbox, Marvel, 387 Park Avenue South, New York, NY 100016* --and it won't hurt to memorize our e-mail address, too: *stanzfanz@aol.com*. Or, as the ever delightful Dr. Doom is so fond of saying, "Non sum qualis eram!"

Excelsior!

Stan

Stan Lee

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www.Marvel.com/messenger

This week's chat schedule!

September 16 _ 9:30pmET
EARTH'S MIGHTIEST CHAT with writer KURT BUSIEK & editor TOM BREVOORT!

September 20 _ 8:00pmET
COMICS LEGEND -- JOHN ROMITA, SR.!

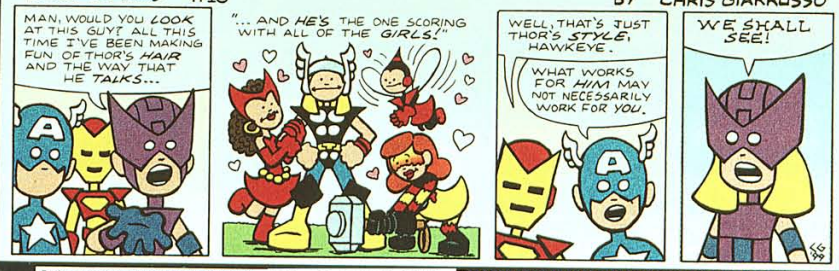
September 21 _ 9:00pmET
The official MARVEL KNIGHTS chat with -- JOE QUESADA & JIMMY PALMIOTTI!

AOL Keyword: *Marvel*

All Chat schedules subject to change/cancellation.

BULLPEN BITS #18

BY CHRIS GIARRUSSO



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- ☐ SPW Spider-Woman NEW!
- ☐ SPG Spider-Girl

MARVEL HEROES
- ☐ AVE Avengers
- ☐ CAM Captain America
- ☐ FAN Fantastic Four
- ☐ INC Hulk
- ☐ IRM Iron Man
- ☐ DDV Daredevil
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HE SHOULD BE HERE WITH ME! THERE IS SO MUCH I'VE GOT TO TELL HIM!
ABOUT THE PHONE CALLS, THE MESSAGES... ABOUT IT ALL...
I THOUGHT THEY WERE ABOUT --
-- BUT THEY'VE BEEN ABOUT ME! AND NOW PETER IS GOING TO BE TARGETED... IN DANGER!
I CAN'T BELIEVE HOW RUDE I'VE BEEN TO HIM. BUT, THEN AGAIN HE --
I'M SO CONFUSED! SO SCARED!
IT'S GOING TO BE FINE, MJ! YOU'VE GOT SECURITY. THEY'LL FIND THIS WHACKO AND ARREST HIM BEFORE --
BRAK
KOOM
FWOOM
FWOOM
OMIGOD! HE'S HERE! HE'S FOUND ME!
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KRAKOOM
YOU BELONG TO ME!
NO.
NO.
NO.
I'VE GOT YOU.
MJ, IT'S GOING TO BE OKAY.
MARY JANE! NOOOO!
TO BE CONTINUED IN THE PAGES OF PETER PARKER: SPIDER-MAN #11.
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THE SPIDER'S WEB

MATT HICKS ASSISTANT EDITOR

RALPH MACCHIO EDITOR

BOB HARRAS CHIEF

Dear *Spider's Web*,

It's now officially been seven months since the Spider-Man titles had their reboot, so I figured that, being a Spider-Man reader for eight years (non-stop, mind you), it's time for me to weigh in on the subject.

I think Marvel made the "write" choice in selecting Howard Mackie as the sole "in-continuity" Spidey-writer. He's more than deserving, as shown by his years-long commitment to the character. And not only does he write both books, he approaches each title differently, something few writers can do with a single character. Here in AMAZING SPIDER-MAN we get traditional super hero vs. super-villain stories, while over in PETER PARKER: SPIDER-MAN, we get gritty, intense crime noir storytelling, which I love. Howard Mackie is one of the best writers in the industry, and it shows!

ASM #7 was intriguing and yet hilarious! We see Flash's egotistical fantasies being played up in such an obnoxious way that I couldn't help but laugh. Every girl throws herself at him and even Spider-Man plays sidekick to Flash. I am very interested to find out what precisely is going on in this "Perfect World."

John Byrne's art is great, blending crisp, traditionally vivid artistic storytelling techniques with Spider-Man's exuberant athletic playfulness. And I do believe Scott Hanna inks superbly over his pencils! Kudos to the entire staff at Marvel for their obvious talent.

I also love the simultaneous subplots Howard has running through these books. While I prefer a "happily married" portrayal of Peter and Mary Jane, Peter's deception about his career as Spider-Man at the cost of honesty to his wife is very insightful and understandable. And the mysterious phone calls MJ has been receiving are intriguing as well. (I think Venom is back and stalking MJ to get to her husband. Am I right?) The story of Senator Stewart Ward is the most interesting subplot, and the new Spider-Woman developments have me picking up her book, as well. In short, the delicate balance between super heroics and soap operatics that I love has been restored.

Thanks again, for proving to me that the super hero I first started regularly reading about still deserves my attention.

Michael Cravens
Liberty, KY

You're welcome, Michael. Really, it was nothing.

We're pleased that you've got such a boffo view of the teams we've put in place here. A lot of the threads that Howard's been spinning in the two core Spidey titles are just now starting to show signs of becoming a large, complex tapestry, and we're glad you'll be along as we continue to weave it.

Dear Spider Crew,

I'm just writing to let you know that I applaud your decision to have Howard Mackie write the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN '99 Annual, and also for letting John Buscema draw it. The man is still great. These days it is very rare to have the regular writer of a series script the Annual as well, and even less often does the Annual have anything to do with the ongoing storyline of the book. In this case, the Annual actually enhanced the current story arc and added to the mystery. My thanks to everyone involved.

Now, for some sleuthing. It is my contention that the "committee" on the monitor in Senator Ward's plane is actually a cabal of Scriers, and the mystery figure in the last panel is none other than Norman Osborn!

Now try to listen to my theory on what these guys are up to without thinking I'm some sort of nut. I have numbered these observations for clarity:

1. On page 20, panel 2, the Wizard says to Ward: "I would suggest you catch that flight to Washington as planned."

2. We next see our pal "Stewie" on page 27 in a plane presumably headed for Washington, D.C.

3. On page 30, panel 5 and page 21 panels 1 and 2, we learn that if part of the Negative Zone is brought into our universe, it would destroy the area it comes into contact with, in this case, New York City.

4. On the last page, Senator Ward, presumably in Washington, walks up to a house that seemingly contains part of the Negative Zone.

My theory is that the Scriers are using the Senator as a "face" to gain control of America and in turn the entire world. By using the Negative Zone to destroy New York, they could wipe out 90% of the heroes of the Marvel Universe, thus ensuring minimal interference in their plan. They want to use the Negative Zone in Washington to wipe out the U.S. Government, leaving Senator Ward as the lone viable candidate for President, in essence giving the Scriers control of the country. As for what Norman's role in all this is, I haven't the foggiest. Hey, I just said it was a theory, okay?

Well, I realize there are holes in this hypothesis, but it was worth a shot. Just wanted to let you guys know what I was thinking and to say thanks for making the Spidey books great again.

Terence Connors
Rochelle Park, NJ

Thanks for chiming in, Terence. That's some theory you've got there. Have you run it past Art Bell by any chance? But you'll not get a word out of us. It's far too early to tip the Senator's hand. And what would be the fun of revealing it in the letters page, anyway?

NEXT ISSUE:

SANDMAN IS BACK TO BEING BAD, AND HE'S INVITED FIVE FRIENDS ALONG TO LAY A HURTIN' ON SPIDEY! PERHAPS YOU'VE HEARD OF THEM...THE SINISTER SIX?! ONLY ONE CATCH: DOC OCK IS THE ODD MAN OUT, AND HIS REPLACEMENT IS NONE OTHER THAN VENOM! JOIN US BACK HERE NEXT MONTH FOR OUR DOUBLE-SIZED 18TH ISSUE, BROUGHT TO YOU WITH APPROPRIATE FANFARE AND PAGEANTRY BY HOWARD, JOHN AND SCOTT. RALF WILL INAPPROPRIATELY BE DRESSED FOR A PAGEANT.

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